
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT, STAFF WORKSHOP, AND PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS AND NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT FOR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES IN THE DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL/GREATER LOS ANGELES AND LONG BEACH HARBOR WATERSHED AND THE LOS CERRITOS CHANNEL/ALAMITOS BAY WATERSHED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board) is accepting written comments on a tentative General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) Facilities in the Dominguez Channel/Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Watershed and the Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed (Draft CII Permit).

Persons wishing to comment on the Draft CII Permit are invited to submit comments in writing. **All written comments must be received by the Los Angeles Water Board no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday September 9, 2022.** Please address written comments to:

Hong-Yan Hui
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 W. 4th Street. Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013-2343

Comment letters may be submitted electronically, in *.pdf text format via e-mail at: Hong-Yan.Hui@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject line: "Comment Letter – Draft CII Permit."

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Water Board will hold a public hearing to consider issuance of the Draft CII Permit on:

Thursday, October 13, 2022
9:00 a.m.
Physical location TBA
And via Video and Teleconference

JAMES STAHL, ACTING CHAIR | RENEE PURDY, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

In-person and Remote Options: This meeting will occur with both a physical meeting location and have an option for the public to participate from a remote location.

- For members of the public who only wish to watch the meeting, the English webcast will be available at <https://cal-span.org/static/index.php> and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.
- For members of the public who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Regional Water Board, additional information about participating will be available at least 10 days before the hearing.

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that Los Angeles Water Board staff will hold a workshop to answer questions and receive public input on the proposed Draft CII Permit during the public comment period. The staff workshop will be held on:

Tuesday, August 30, 2022
9:00 a.m.
Via Video and Teleconference Only
Additional meeting details TBA

Although one or more Los Angeles Water Board members may be present at the workshop, there will be no quorum of Board members and no formal action will be taken. Additional information about the staff workshop will be available at least two weeks before the meeting.

Any interested parties desiring to receive future notices about changes to the date, time, location, or format of public meetings should sign up for the e-mail subscription list, as detailed below in the Future Notices section. **All future notices regarding the upcoming Board hearing and staff workshop will only be sent to the e-mail subscription list.**

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Draft CII Permit documents are available on the [Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board CII Stormwater Program Page](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/Commercial_Industrial_and_Institutional/index.html) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/Commercial_Industrial_and_Institutional/index.html).

BACKGROUND

Sections 402(p)(2)(E) and 402(p)(6) of the CWA, and sections 122.26(a)(9)(i)(C) and (D) of title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) provide that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Regional Administrator or authorized states may designate additional stormwater discharges as requiring NPDES permits where it is determined that stormwater controls are needed for the discharge based on wasteload allocations that are part of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) that address the pollutants of concern; or the discharge, or category of discharges within a geographic area, contributes to a violation of a water quality standard or is a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the United States. This authority is commonly referred to as Residual Designation Authority (RDA).

USEPA is exercising RDA pursuant to 40 CFR section 122.26(a)(9)(i)(D) for certain CII sites in the Alamitos Bay/Los Cerritos Channel watershed and the Dominguez Channel and Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor watershed. For more information, see USEPA's website: [EPA Region 9 Residual Designation Authority](https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/residual-designation-authority-address-stormwater-quality-problems-epas-pacific) (<https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/residual-designation-authority-address-stormwater-quality-problems-epas-pacific>).

CII facilities contain significant amounts of impervious areas, such as parking lots and rooftops, that are exposed to a variety of pollutants. Because impervious surfaces allow for little or no infiltration, pollutants can build up and run off CII facilities during rain events and as a result of unauthorized non-stormwater discharges. Pollutants can come from tire and brake pad wear, leaking automotive fluids, litter, and air deposition, and include metals, indicator bacteria, nutrients, pH, trash, legacy pesticides, and other organic chemicals. The runoff then enters the MS4 or discharges directly to receiving waters in the Dominguez Channel/Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Watershed and the Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed. The receiving waters in these watersheds are impaired by bacteria, metals, nutrients, historic pesticides, PCBs, PAHs, low dissolved oxygen, toxicity, and trash.

Concurrent with USEPA's draft residual designation, the Los Angeles Water Board is noticing this Draft CII Permit. The Draft CII Permit would apply to stormwater discharges and authorized non-stormwater discharges from unpermitted CII sites with five (5) or more acres of impervious cover and permitted CII sites with five (5) or more acres of total area in the Dominguez Channel/Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Watershed and the Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed. There are approximately 640 CII facilities in these watersheds subject to the Draft CII Permit.

Part of USEPA's residual designation includes industrial facilities with five or more acres of total area that are already covered under the General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities (NPDES No. CAS000001; Order 2014-0057-DWQ amended by Order 2015-0122-DWQ as amended in 2015 and 2018) (IGP). The U.S. EPA designation covers the non-industrial portions of the facilities (e.g., parking lots, rooftops) that are not covered by the IGP. A facility may retain coverage under the IGP for the industrial portions of its facility and enroll in the Draft CII Permit for the non-industrial portions of its facility. Alternatively, a facility may enroll in the Draft CII Permit for its total facility area. The Draft CII Permit carries over applicable IGP requirements, including any applicable effluent limitations guidelines, and facilities may opt to enroll both the non-industrial and industrial portions of their facility under the Draft CII Permit.

The Draft CII Permit contains technology-based effluent limitations, as well as water-quality-based effluent limitations, for which there are three compliance options: (1) Agreement with Local Watershed Management Group to Fund Regional Project, (2) Facility-Specific Design Standard to Reduce Stormwater Runoff, and (3) Direct Demonstration of Compliance with Effluent Limitations. Compliance Option 1 incentivizes watershed-based approaches to address multiple contaminants through green infrastructure, multi-benefit projects, and the capture, infiltration, and reuse of stormwater to support a sustainable local water supply. Compliance Option 2 also supports the capture, infiltration, and reuse of stormwater, and provides regulatory

certainty for CII facilities. Compliance Option 3 is intended to allow CII facilities flexibility if they do not wish to participate in Compliance Options 1 or 2.

EX PARTE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED GENERAL ORDER

An ex parte communication is a communication to a board member from any person, about a pending matter, that occurs in the absence of other parties and without notice and opportunity for them to respond. The California Government Code prohibits the board members from engaging in ex parte communications during permitting, enforcement, and other “quasi-adjudicatory” matters. Ex parte communications are allowed on pending general orders subject to the disclosure requirements of Water Code section 13287. For further information and disclosure forms, please visit https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/laws_regulations/

FUTURE NOTICES

Any interested parties desiring to receive future notices concerning the Draft CII Permit, including any changes to the format, location, date or time of the public meeting or public workshop, should sign up for the e-mail subscription list as follows:

- (1) Access the [Regional Water Board email subscription web page](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg4_subscribe.html)
(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg4_subscribe.html)
- (2) Check the box for “Storm Water – CII Permit (Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional)”
- (3) Fill in the required signup details
- (4) Press the “Subscribe” button

All future notices will only be sent to the CII Permit e-mail subscription list.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions regarding this notice to Milasol Gaslan, CII Section Manager, at milasol.gaslan@waterboards.ca.gov.

July 26, 2022

Date

Jenny Newman
Assistant Executive Officer